

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 STR-07 COME-00 LAB-04

TRSE-00 OES-09 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10

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-----099866 042011Z /14

R 041845Z AUG 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2928

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 12013

VIENNA FOR UNIDO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, ECOSOC

SUBJECT: 1978 SUMMER ECOSOC - DISCUSSION ON UNIDO

CONSTITUTION

REF: (A) STATE 174518, (B) VIENNA 6613, (C) GENEVA 11699

1. USDEL HAS DELAYED ANSWER TO REF A IN EXPECTATION THAT A G-77 POSITION ON NEXT STEPS ON UNIDO CONSTITUTION WOULD EMERGE IN COURSE OF SUMMER ECOSOC. IT HAS NOT. THERE WAS NO MENTION OF CONSTITUTION IN G-77 DRAFT RESOLUTION ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (REFTEL C WHICH PASSED BY CONSENSUS AFTER MODIFICATIONS, MAKING IT ACCEPTABLE TO WEST). WITH EXCEPTIONS GIVEN BELOW, THERE WAS VERY LITTLE MENTION OF QUESTIONS IN FORMAL DEBATE, NOR HAVE DELOFFS SUCCEEDED IN ELICITING MUCH COMMENT IN CONVERSATIONS.

2. IN FORMAL DEBATE, UK DEL (WINDSOR) NOTED THAT HE PREFERRED A FORMAL CONFERENCE PROCEDURE, BUT THAT, IF

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A CLEAR BLOCK OF TIME AND ADEQUATE FACILITIES WERE PROVIDED, UK COULD AGREE WITH DISCUSSIONS IN COURSE OF GA. YUGOSLAVS NOTED THAT "BACKGROUND TO PROBLEM" SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (COW). THIS VAGUE PHRASING COULD, AT WORST, IMPLY EFFORT TO ASSERT "PRINCIPLE OF DEMOCRATIC CONTROL" THERE. WE HAVE THEREFORE DISCUSSED QUESTION PRIVATELY WITH YUGOSLAVS

AND ALGERIANS, AND BELIEVE WE HAVE DISSUADED THEM FROM ANY SUCH APPROACH. IN THAT CONTEXT, YUGOSLAV THEN RESTATED PREFERENCE FOR NEGOTIATIONS IN COURSE OF GA. AN EFFORT TO EXPLORE QUESTION WITH KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIAN PRODUCED NO REACTION.

3. USDEL (AND USUN) BELIEVE THAT USG SHOULD BE FLEXIBLE ON QUESTION OF CONTEXT IN WHICH TO PURSUE NEGOTIATIONS, PROVIDED THAT IT CONTINUES TO BE RECOGNIZED BY ALL (AS IT WAS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE DISCUSSION) THAT A NEW PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE WOULD ONLY BE HELD WHEN FULL AGREEMENT IS REACHED ON OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS (LEGAL WORK OF "DRAFTING COMMITTEE" COULD PRESUMABLY BE INCLUDED WITHIN PLENIPOTENTIARY MEETINGS). DURING ECOSOC DEBATE, USDEL underscored THIS FLEXIBILITY, AND WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE WORK AT AN EARLY DATE, EVEN DURING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (SEE PARA 5). WE DO NOT SEE RETRANSFER TO VIENNA AS EVEN REMOTE POSSIBILITY. WE FIND IT UNLIKELY, GIVEN UNIVERSALLY ADMITTED "URGENCY" OF PROBLEM, THAT G-77 WILL CONSENT TO A YEAR'S DELAY WHICH WOULD BE THE RESULT SHOULD A FORMAL APPROACH SUCH AS THAT SUGGESTED BY AMBASSADOR HOFFMANN BE ADOPTED. RATHER, WE BELIEVE THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH REMAIN, ESSENTIALLY ON QUESTIONS OF NUMBERS AND OF NIEO LANGUAGE (FROM OUR VIEWPOINT), WILL BE NO DIFFERENT, AND NO LESS "POLITICAL" WHETHER HELD IN NEW YORK IN OCTOBER OR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN FEBRUARY.

4. INCLUSION OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ITEM IN AGENDA IN SEPTEMBER MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE WOULD SEEM TO INSURE DISCUSSION OF THIS QUESTION IN EARLY/MID-SEPTEMBER. WHILE CONCLUSION MAY BE NO MORE THAN RATIFICATION OF NEUTRAL TEXT AGREED, BUT NOT FORMALLY APPROVED AT MAY MEETING (WHICH RECOMMENDED THAT 33RD GA "CALL FOR A PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE"), COMMITTEE COULD ALSO MAKE MORE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO HOW TO PREPARE FOR SUCH A CONFERENCE. IN THAT CASE, SHOULD FRG OR OTHERS IN GROUP B PRESS FOR DECISION ON FORMAL ARRANGEMENTS AS SUGGESTED BY HOFFMANN, WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT USDEL SHOW POSITIVE UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR ARGUMENTS AND WILLINGNESS TO GO ALONG. IF, HOWEVER, G-77 PRESS GA APPROACH, WE SHOULD WORK FOR A COMPROMISE ON LINES SUGGESTED BY WINDSOR; I.E., ADEQUATE ARRANGEMENTS AT GA. SHOULD DISCUSSION AT COW, AND AT GA ITSELF REMAIN INFORMAL, BEST POSITION FOR US WOULD BE FLEXIBILITY APPROACH GIVEN IN US REMARKS AT ECOSOC.

5. US REMARKS AT ECOSOC WERE AS FOLLOWS:

"AS REGARDS THE EFFORT WHICH HAS BEEN LAUNCHED TO TRANSFORM UNIDO INTO A SPECIALIZED AGENCY, WE SHARE THE REGRETS WHICH HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED THAT THE UN CONFERENCE ON THIS SUBJECT WHICH TOOK PLACE EARLY THIS YEAR FAILED TO COMPLETE ITS WORK. THREE YEARS AGO, IN THE WAKE OF THE LIMA CONFERENCE, THE US VOICED ITS READINESS TO PARTICIPATE CONSTRUCTIVELY IN THE TASK OF ESTABLISHING UNIDO AS A MAJOR AGENCY OF THE UN SYSTEM. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO CONCLUDE THE TASK GIVEN US BY THE LIMA CONFERENCE AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WE BELIEVE

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AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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VIENNA FOR UNIDO

WE ARE NOT FAR FROM OUR GOAL. WE ARE PREPARED TO CONTINUE TO COOPERATE ACTIVELY IN THIS EFFORT, AND WE WOULD HOPE THAT WITH GOOD WILL ON ALL SIDES, WE MIGHT SOON RESOLVE THE REMAINING ISSUES IN THE WAY OF ARRIVING AT A DRAFT CONSTITUTION THAT WOULD COMMEND THE SUPPORT OF ALL COUNTRIES. WE ARE OPEN TO ANY PRACTICABLE SUGGESTION ON HOW TO PROCEED FURTHER AND WE ARE PREPARED TO RESUME WORK LEFT UNFINISHED AT THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE AT AN EARLY DATE, PERHAPS EVEN DURING THE FORTHCOMING GENERAL ASSEMBLY."

VANDEN HEUVEL

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